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MOTORCYCLE SAFETY FOUNDATION

CYCLE SAFETY INFO

National Resource Office
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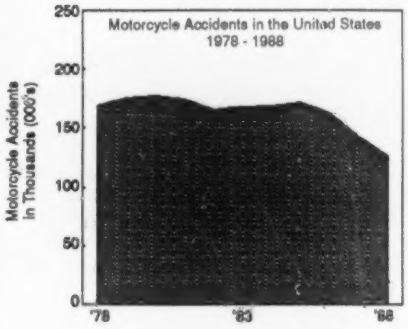
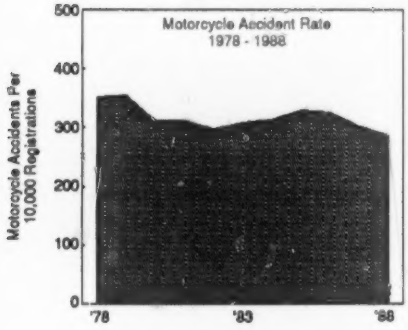
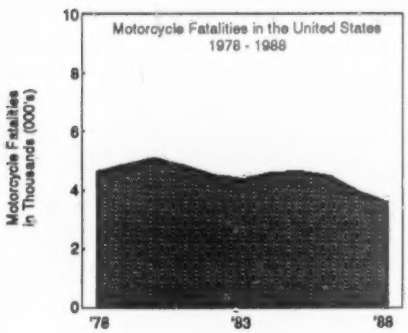
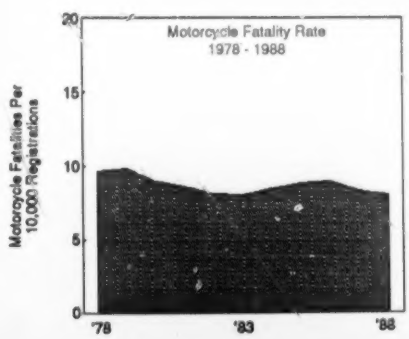
Irvine, CA 92718

MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT STATISTICS — 1988









Decreases in both U.S. motorcycle accidents and motorcycle fatalities occurred in 1988 compared with 1987. Accidents decreased by 11.6% and fatalities by 9.6%. This downward trend in motorcycle accidents and fatalities has continued since 1980, except for minor increases during 1983-1985.

In 1988, there were 126,765 reported motorcycle accidents and 3,572 fatalities compared with 143,369 accidents and 3,951 fatalities in 1987. The ratio of motorcycle accidents per 10,000 registered motorcycles was 288.01, a decrease of 5.0% from 1987. The ratio of fatalities per 10,000 registrations was 8.12, declining 2.8% from 1987. The ratio of fatalities per 100 accidents increased slightly to 2.82 in 1988, up 2.2% from 1987.

Statistics are obtained directly from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. When a state's accident figures are not available, MSF provides estimates based on historical trends. Criteria for reporting accidents to the police varies from state to state. Accidents with only minor property damage and those occurring on nonpublic or private property are sometimes not reported.

For 1988, the number of registered motorcycles in the United States was 4,401,366—a drop of 6.9% from 1987. Registration figures provided by the states may include vehicles other than motorcycles, such as mopeds and off-highway vehicles. Also, the vehicle types that are included in registration totals may not be comparable with those included in accident and fatality reports for each state.

Accident Reduction Measures

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) and the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHTSA) cooperatively support the concepts of motorcycle rider education, quality licensing programs, and the promotion of safe and responsible riding as motorcycle accident countermeasures. These organizations also recommend the use of helmets and other protective clothing to reduce injuries when an accident does occur.

In recent years, NHTSA and MSF have been involved in projects to educate motorcyclists on the risks of alcohol and drug use when operating a motorcycle.

MSF is distributing a video on motorcycling and alcohol use called "Riding Straight" to interested schools, community groups and recreational facilities on a free-loan basis. Write to MSF to obtain a list of other motorcycle safety videos available through the free-loan program.

MSF has developed a nationwide motorcycle rider education program for beginning and experienced riders. The program includes an instuctor and site certification system, research-based and field-evaluated curricula, and other education support materials.

An increasing number of states have adopted improved motorcycle licensing programs. MSF, in cooperation with the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, has provided technical assistance in licensing improvements to all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation's purpose is improving the safety of motorcyclists on the nation's streets and highways. To seek reduction of motorcycle accidents and injuries, the Foundation has programs in rider education, licensing improvement, public information and statistics. These programs address both motorcyclists and motorists. A national, nonprofit organization, the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) is sponsored by the U.S. distributors of Honda, Yamaha, Kawasaki, Suzuki and BMW motorcycles.

1988 NATIONAL AND STATE MOTORCYCLE STATISTICS

State Data — 1988		Registrations	Reported Accidents	Accidents Per 10,000 Registrations	Fatalities	Fatalities Per 10,000 Registrations	Fatalities Per 100 Accidents
ALABAMA	(1,3,7,9-11,15,20-22,26,27)	52,715	1,647	312.43	39	7.40	2.37
ALASKA	(1,7-11,16,20-22,26,27)	12,461	158	126.80	4	3.21	2.53
ARIZONA	(1,3,4,7,8,10,11,16,20-22,26,27)	76,091	3,227	424.10	89	11.70	2.76
ARKANSAS	(1,7-11,15,20-22,26-28)	16,586	1,097*	661.40	31	18.69	2.83
CALIFORNIA	(1,7-9,14,20-22,24,26,27)	664,819	23,830	358.44	603	9.07	2.53
COLORADO	(1,7,8,11,14,20-22,26,27)	115,629	2,092	180.92	50	4.32	2.39
CONNECTICUT	(1,7,8,11,17,20-22,26,27)	59,331	1,822	307.09	61	10.28	3.35
DELAWARE	(1,7,8,15,20-24,26,27)	7,768	321	413.23	11	14.16	3.43
DIST. OF COL.	(1,3,7,8,10,15,20-23,26,27)	1,911	200*	1046.57	6	31.40	3.00
FLORIDA	(1,7,8,19,20-24,26,27)	203,913	7,742	379.67	217	10.64	2.80
GEORGIA	(1-4,7,8,11,15,20-22,26,27)	75,341	2,321	308.07	57	7.57	2.46
HAWAII	(1,7,8,11,15,20-22,26,27)	11,544	500*	433.13	18	15.59	3.60
IDAHO	(1,7,8,11,15,20-22,26,27)	38,282	597	155.95	29	7.58	4.86
ILLINOIS	(1,3,7-11,15,20-22,26,27)	243,789	7,241	297.02	178	7.30	2.46
INDIANA	(1,7-11,14,20-22,26-28)	99,745	3,683	369.24	90	9.02	2.44
IOWA	(1,7,16,20-22,26,27)	145,967	1,723	118.04	58	3.97	3.37
KANSAS	(1,7,16,20-22,26,27)	64,724	1,274	196.84	40	6.18	3.14
KENTUCKY	(1-3,5,7-11,14,20-22,26,27)	32,054	1,295	404.01	43	13.41	3.32
LOUISIANA	(1,7,11,14,21,22,26,27)	68,080	1,163	170.83	49	7.20	4.21
MAINE	(1,7-10,15,20-22,24,26-28)	35,876	753	209.89	20	5.57	2.66
MARYLAND	(1,7,8,11,19-22,26,27)	51,358	2,010	391.37	59	11.49	2.94
MASSACHUSETTS	(1,7,17,20-22,26,27)	59,000*	2,000*	338.98	56	9.49	2.80
MICHIGAN	(1,2,4,7,14,20-22,26,27)	157,898	4,211	266.69	76	4.81	1.80
MINNESOTA	(1,7,8,11,16,20-22,24,26,27)	128,956	1,969	152.69	58	4.50	2.95
MISSISSIPPI	(1,3,7,9,15,20-22,26,27)	18,411	607	329.69	16	8.69	2.64
MISSOURI	(1,7,8,10,16,20-24,26,27)	81,123	2,047	252.33	65	8.01	3.18
MONTANA	(1,4,7,8,16,20-22,24,26,27)	25,294	419	165.65	18	7.12	4.30
NEBRASKA	(1,7,16,20-22,26,27)	29,088	857	294.62	19	6.53	2.22
NEVADA	(1,7,19-22,26,27)	17,649	818	463.48	26	14.73	3.18
NEW HAMPSHIRE	(1,7,16,20-22,26-28)	30,410	931	306.15	19	6.25	2.04
NEW JERSEY	(1,7,8,11,16,20-22,26-28)	77,734	3,200*	411.66	52	6.69	1.63
NEW MEXICO	(1,7-11,15,20-22,26,27)	35,421	1,385	391.01	40	11.29	2.89
NEW YORK	(1,7,17,20-22,26,27)	201,265	5,642	280.33	160	7.95	2.84
NORTH CAROLINA	(1,7,16,20-22,26,27)	59,991	2,114	352.39	75	12.50	3.55
NORTH DAKOTA	(1,3,7,17,20-22,26,27)	23,978	234	97.59	8	3.34	3.42
OHIO	(1,7,8,11,19-22,26,27)	243,885	5,715	234.33	153	6.27	2.68
OKLAHOMA	(1,7,15,20-22,26,27)	64,056	1,493	233.08	48	7.49	3.22
OREGON	(1,7-10,16,20-23,26,27)	71,538	1,200*	167.74	50	6.99	4.17
PENNSYLVANIA	(1,7-9,11,19-22,26,27)	174,790	3,961	226.61	132	7.55	3.33
RHODE ISLAND	(1,3,7,15,20-22,26,27)	32,626	350*	107.28	14	4.29	4.00
SOUTH CAROLINA	(1,7,14,20-22,26,27)	33,426	1,580	472.69	61	18.25	3.86
SOUTH DAKOTA	(1,3,4,7-11,17,20-22,24,26,27)	31,421	424	134.94	13	4.14	3.07
TENNESSEE	(1,7,8,11,14,20-22,26,27)	84,000*	2,450*	214.78	66	5.79	2.69
TEXAS	(1,3,7,15,20-22,26,27)	206,497	8,108	392.64	295	14.29	3.64
UTAH	(1,7,8,10,16,20-24,26,27)	25,316	1,042	411.60	27	10.67	2.59
VERMONT	(1,7,16,20-22,26,27)	17,438	222	127.31	3	1.72	1.35
VIRGINIA	(1,7,19-22,26,27)	66,327	1,944	293.09	65	9.80	3.34
WASHINGTON	(1,7,15,20-22,26,27)	112,228	2,813	250.65	76	6.77	2.70
WEST VIRGINIA	(1,7,8,10,11,15,20-22,26,27)	26,511	630	237.64	22	8.30	3.49
WISCONSIN	(1,3,7,16,20-24,26,27)	167,055	3,407	203.94	93	5.57	2.73
WYOMING	(1,7-11,16,20-22,26-28)	20,050	296	147.63	14	6.98	4.73
U.S. TOTAL:							
1988		**4,401,366**	**126,765**	**288.01**	**3,572**	**8.12**	**2.82**
1983		5,484,552	168,439	307.12	4,396	8.02	2.61
1978		4,810,117	168,980	351.30	4,634	9.63	2.74

*Estimated

Footnotes

Registrations: (vehicle types included)
1. Street-legal motorcycles (on-highway and dual purpose)
2. Off-highway motorcycles
3. Mopeds or motorized bicycles (50 cc or less)
4. 3 or 4-wheeled all-terrain vehicles (sometimes known as ATVs or ATCs)
5. Other types of vehicles
6. No description available

Accidents: (vehicle types included)
7. Street-legal motorcycles (on-highway and dual purpose)
8. Off-highway motorcycles
9. Mopeds or motorized bicycles (50 cc or less)
10. 3 or 4-wheeled all-terrain vehicles (sometimes known as ATVs or ATCs)
11. Vehicle types 8, 9 or 10 included only if accident or fatality occurs on public roads
12. Other types of vehicles
13. No description available

Criteria for Reporting Accidents:
14. $0-$199 property damage threshold
15. $200-$399 property damage threshold
16. $400-$599 property damage threshold
17. $600-$1,000 property damage threshold
18. When vehicle is towed.
19. No description available

Accidents Include:
20. Motorcycle-related accident where property damage occurs (See reporting criteria above.)
21. Motorcycle-related accident where personal injury or fatality occurs
22. Motorcycle-related accidents occurring on public streets/highways
23. Motorcycle-related accidents occurring on nonpublic property
24. Motorcycle-related accidents occurring on public off-highway lands
25. No description available

Fatalities Include:
26. Motorcycle operators fatally injured in a motorcycle accident
27. Motorcycle passengers fatally injured in a motorcycle accident
28. Others fatally injured in a motorcycle accident, such as pedestrians, car occupants, bicyclists, etc
29. No description available

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